

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously amended) Voice control system for a technical device, the device being connected to one or more appliances, comprising

a microphone array with a plurality of microphones distributed over said device and said one or more appliances, for converting a detected signal to electrical signals,

a signal processing unit for processing the electrical output signals of said microphone array such that background signals are reduced by a spatial separation of the voice signal and the background signals; and

speech recognition unit for converting the output signals from said microphone array into operational commands.

2. (Previously amended) System according to Claim 1, wherein the one or more appliances are connected via a bi-directional network.

3. (Previously amended) System according to Claim 2, wherein the bi-directional network is based on an IEEE 1394 bus.

4. (Previously amended) System according to Claim 1, wherein the technical device is a consumer electronics reproduction device, in particular a television set, and the appliances are external loudspeakers.